

# Mapline

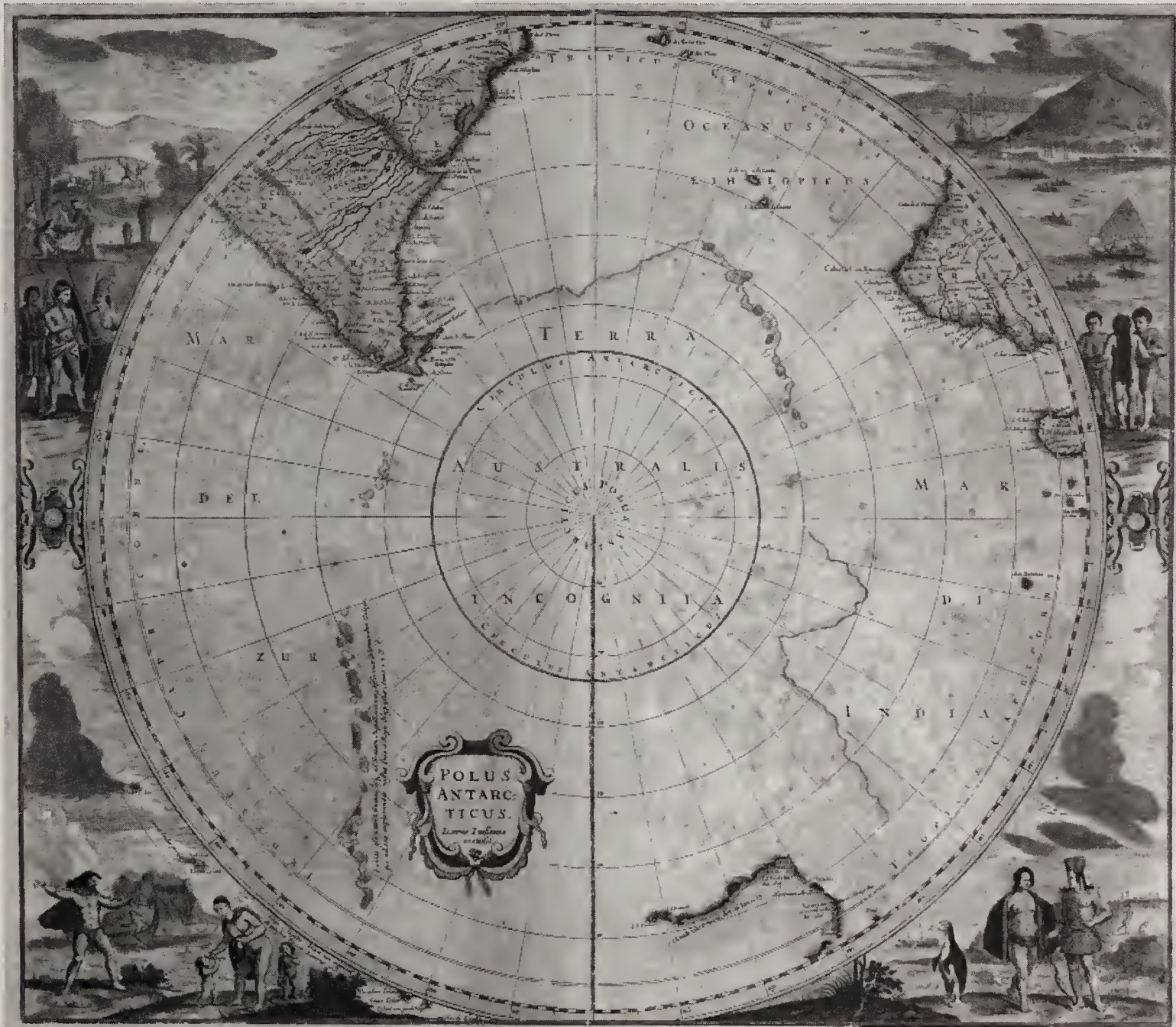
A newsletter published by

The Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography at The Newberry Library

edited by Chris Dingwall

Number 104 Spring 2007

## The Oxford Companion to World Exploration



1. Jan Jansson, *Polus Antarcticus* (Amsterdam, 1650). Newberry Library Fitzgerald M240.

About five years ago, Oxford University Press suggested to the Newberry Library that the two institutions might collaborate in a new *Companion* to exploration. The Smith Center logically became the base for the project, which culminated with the publication in two volumes of *The Oxford Companion to World Exploration* in January 2007. The *Companion* includes about 800 entries and about 250 images, many of these in color, and drawn as far as possible from the Newberry's collections.

Originally, it was thought that the Library would chiefly contribute map-images from the traditional age of European expansion in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. But as time went by, it became clear that the Newberry also has a great breadth of other material, including work on Africa, Australia, and the Poles in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. So the cartographic material spans a wide range of times and places; we have selected four of these maps in the hope that they will interest readers of *Mapline*.



2. Jean-Baptiste d'Anville, Cartouche from *Carte la plus generale et qui comprend la Chine...* (Paris, 1734). The Newberry Library Ayer +135 A6 1737.

For the entry on “Antarctica,” we have the *Polus Antarcticus* of Jan Jansson (fig. 1), probably detached (as the entry in the White, Morris, and Karrow catalogue of the Fitzgerald collection says) from his *Atlantis majoris*, published at Amsterdam in 1650. Here the “Terra Australis” begins to take shape, as does the southwest coast of New Holland, soon to be “Australia.” The South Pacific is still the “Mar del Zur,” and the South Atlantic has become the “Oceanus Ethiopicus.” A wide range of indigenous peoples inhabit the margins, accompanied in one case (lower right) by a curious penguin. The original is colored with a charming yellow-green wash, and the whole map summarizes European knowledge at a time when navigators like Tasman were about to begin resolving the long-standing problem of what southern lands must counterbalance the Arctic territories.

In the *Companion*, we have tried to insist on the importance of understanding why maps were commissioned, and what interests they served. For “Anville,” we have used the cartouche from his great map of China (fig. 2), for which he seems to have relied on the work of the Jesuits (who, in turn, often relied on earlier Chinese

observations). We see two of these learned Jesuits, clad partially in Chinese clothes (as was their custom), at the lower right; the emperor himself sits grandly on his throne, under an obelisk and beneath the banners. The Jesuits’ mastery of cartography seems to have been one reason why they were able so successfully to penetrate the Chinese reluctance to allow barbarians to study the middle kingdom.

It has become clear, in the course of assembling entries for the *Companion*, that the Jesuits played a very large part in the expansion of European knowledge about overseas territories between about 1650 and the 1770s, when they often suffered expulsion. The entry “Dobrizhoffer” provides a fine example of their work from Spanish America, where we see the area made famous by the recent film *The Mission* (1986), which describes the Jesuits’ vain struggle against the slave-traders of Brazil. Sure enough, we see on this map’s key the sign for “loca destructa” (fig. 3), which were mission-sites destroyed in the course of this struggle. Curiously, the South Atlantic has here become the Mare Pacificum,” a rather inappropriate description.

There is always a tendency for works written in English to dwell excessively on anglophone explorers. We have tried (no doubt in vain) to avoid this, including explorers like Wilhelm Filchner of Bavaria (1877-1957). He traveled very extensively in Tibet, and just before the First World War organized an expedition to Antarctica. His account of the expedition, published in 1922, included this efficient little map (fig. 4), showing the course of his ship, the *Deutschland*, to “Prince Regent Luitpold Land.” Of course, “Amundsen” and “Scott” are already marked by the “Südpol.”

It is not easy to compile a *Companion*, which aims to be a sort of compendium of the most interesting work going on in any given field. Some, like the *Oxford Companion to English Literature*, have enjoyed a huge success and gone through many editions, though others have sunk without trace or have been swallowed whole in the jungles of secondhand book shops. The editors and the Smith Center hope that this *Companion* on exploration will reach a wide audience, and that it will incite further studies of many aspects of exploration, including its cartography.

—David Buisseret  
formerly of the Newberry Library  
& the University of Texas—Arlington

*The Oxford Companion to World Exploration*. 2 volumes. Edited by David Buisseret. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. ISBN 978-0-19-514922-7; \$250.00. 1072 pages, 152 b/w halftones & maps, 79 color illustrations.



3. Martin Dobrizhoffer, *Mappa Paraquaria* (Vienna, 1784). The Newberry Library Ayer 1331 A 211 D2 1784.



4. Wilhelm Filchner, Map of Antarctica from *Der sechste Erdteil* (Berlin, c. 1922). The Newberry Library G 149.3.

# Recent Acquisitions

## Plan de la Distribution Générale des Terres de Rouvres



1. Feugueray, *Plan de la Distribution Générale des Terres de Rouvres* (Dijon, 1707). The Newberry Library (Uncataloged).



2. Detail from "Carte de Promenade," 37 Dijon-Tournus, with the area of Feugueray's plan outlined.

The Library was recently given a very unusual map, acquired at a local sale (fig. 1). It is a large-scale plan of an area which proves to be just to the southeast of Dijon, in Burgundy, France. Such maps are relatively commonplace for northeastern France in the later eighteenth century, but it is very unusual to find one as early as 1707, made by "Feugueray, surveyor of Dijon." At that time, French surveyors tended to show not agricultural estates, but hunting-grounds; in this respect they differed sharply from the "Rural Images" (theme of the 1988 Nebenzahl Lectures) already common in England and the Netherlands by the end of the sixteenth century. Historians have explained this sharp difference by showing that it was not until the eighteenth century that the market system was widely common in France, whereas it had come into existence much earlier in England and the Netherlands; for a market-oriented agriculture, accurate estate maps were an essential tool for efficient management.

The "Village de Rouvres" may be seen in the middle of Feugueray's map, by the round crenelated feature labeled "Chateau." This stronghold, which seems to have an attached garden, cannot easily be identified on modern maps and guides to what is now known as "Rouvres en Plaine" (see fig. 2). However, many of the other features of the modern landscape were already present in 1707. The

great exception is the autoroute which now cuts across the upper lefthand corner of Feugueray's map. The village of Bretenière may be seen on its western edge, just by the "canal"; this is Feugueray's "canal neuf," just to the east of his "grand chemin," which has become part of the north-south autoroute. The "village de Fauverney," just below Feugueray's accurate compass-rose, lies on the river Ouche, which runs down the eastern boundary of the Rouvres lands.

The outline of the roads has remained remarkably constant, with the "Chemin de Dijon à Rouvres" now running northwards into the main runway of the aerodrome, "Dijon-Longvic." To the west of the road, the fields were still laid out in the ancient lot-pattern, as indeed they were in the southern part of Feugueray's map. This involved the roads being sited as convenient oblongs, across which the similarly sized lots could run; the survival of roads of this kind is particularly striking to the southeast of the town of Rouvres. Presumably these lots, regarded as inefficient in the days of what is sometimes called the "agricultural revolution" (part of "physiocracy" in France), were enclosed into large fields not long after this map was made; indeed, perhaps it was partly constructed for this purpose.

—David Buisseret

# Festival of Maps, Chicago 2007

The Festival of Maps, opening **2 November 2007** and continuing into 2008, is a citywide celebration of the history of cartography and the maps that record the myriad ways humanity has viewed its world. More than 25 cultural and scientific institutions join a unique collaboration that will feature maps, globes, artifacts, and artworks and track the evolving technology of cartography from ancient to modern times. The festival will educate and inspire visitors through exhibits, lectures, and multimedia programs that explore how societies discover, interpret, and record their physical, political, psychological, and virtual worlds. The Festival of Maps is coordinated by a volunteer committee of leading experts and collectors of historical maps, globes and atlases. For more information visit [www.festivalofmaps.org](http://www.festivalofmaps.org).

In November, the Newberry Library will host several exciting events as a part of the Festival of Maps, including the Nebenzahl Lectures, the meeting of the Society for the History of Discoveries, and exhibitions of Ptolemy's *Geography* and maps of the American West.

## **The Nebenzahl Lectures: Ancient Perspectives: Maps and Their Place in Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece and Rome**

The Sixteenth Kenneth Nebenzahl, Jr., Lectures in the History of Cartography will be held at the Newberry Library on **8–10 November 2007**. This year's series examines recent trends in the study of the mapmaking by the ancient cultures ringing the Mediterranean Sea. The series has been organized for the Smith Center by Dr. Richard Talbert (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill), and will include seven papers on topics ranging from urban to cosmological mapping. For 41 years the Nebenzahl Lectures series has been dedicated to its mission to present current scholarship in the history of cartography to general audiences thanks to the ongoing support of Kenneth and Jocelyn Nebenzahl.

For a detailed schedule and list of speakers, as well as information about accommodations in Chicago, please visit [www.newberry.org/smith/smithhome.html](http://www.newberry.org/smith/smithhome.html).

## **Society for the History of Discoveries**

The Newberry will host the 48th Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Discoveries immediately following the Nebenzahl Lectures. Sessions will be held on Monday and Tuesday, **12–13 November 2007**. Trips to exhibitions at other Chicago cultural institutions are planned for Sunday, 11 November. Further information is available on the Society's website, [www.sochistdisc.org](http://www.sochistdisc.org).



Ptolemy, World map (1482). Newberry Library Ayer \*6 P9 1482a

## **Ptolemy's *Geography* and Renaissance Mapmakers**

In honor of the Nebenzahl Lectures, the Newberry Library will mount an exhibition of the Library's stellar collection of early printed editions of the great 2nd-century geographical manual by Claudius Ptolemy. The classic Ptolemaic maps in the exhibit will provide a circuit around the ancient world as Ptolemy understood it while also tracing his book's enormous influence on cartographic methods and geographic knowledge during the European Renaissance. The exhibit will run **3 November 2007–16 February 2008**; please consult [www.newberry.org/exhibits/ptolemy.html](http://www.newberry.org/exhibits/ptolemy.html) for further information.

## **Mapping Manifest Destiny: Chicago and the American West**

This exhibit, running concurrently with *Ptolemy's Geography and Renaissance Mapmakers*, will examine the role of maps in European competition to colonize North America, the struggle for the United States' mastery of the continent, and Chicago's rise as an innovative and ultimately dominant commercial cartographic center crucial in envisioning the spatial order of the American West. More detail is available online at [www.newberry.org/exhibits/west.html](http://www.newberry.org/exhibits/west.html).

## **Maps: Finding Our Place in the World**

The Field Museum and the Newberry Library have partnered to create this unprecedented exhibition that will feature over 100 remarkable maps of all kinds from around the globe. *Maps* will run **2 November 2007–27 January 2008** at the Field Museum (1400 S. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, IL). For more information, please visit the Field Museum's website, [www.fieldmuseum.org](http://www.fieldmuseum.org).

# Briefly Noted

## Conferences & Workshops

The **American Library Association** will hold its annual conference in Washington, D.C., **21–27 June 2007**. The conference will feature a number of events sponsored by the Map and Geography Round Table, including programs addressing “Library Security for Maps” and celebrating “Two Hundred Years of the Coast Survey.” The Round Table will also co-sponsor a preconference, “Rare, Antiquarian, or Just Plain Old: Cataloging Pre-Twentieth Century Cartographic Resources,” from **21–22 June**. Registration for the preconference is limited to 50 participants, and advance rates available until **18 May**. Please visit [www.ala.org/ala/magert/magert.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/magert/magert.htm) for a complete schedule.

The **22nd International Conference on the History of Cartography** will meet in Berne, **8–13 July 2007**. This biennial meeting is the major international scholarly conference dedicated to advancing knowledge of the history of cartography, of maps and mapmaking, broadly defined. The conference promotes global cooperation and collaboration among scholars (from any academic discipline), curators, collectors, dealers, and institutions, through illustrated talks, poster presentations, exhibitions, and a social program. The conference themes are “Mapping Relief,” “Maps and Tourism,” “Language and Maps,” “Time as the Cartographic Fourth Dimension,” and any other aspect of the history of cartography. During the conference week, several exhibitions with a cartographic focus will take

place in the city of Berne: in the Swiss Alpine Museum, the Swiss National Library, the Stadt- und Universitätsbibliothek Bern (with Burgerbibliothek Bern). There will also be a series of professional visits as well as post-conference tours. Details can be found on the conference website, [www.ichc2007.ch](http://www.ichc2007.ch).

## Exhibits

“**Footpaths to Freeways: The Evolution of Michigan Roadmaps**” will be held at the Michigan State University Main Library until **June 2007**. This exhibit traces how roads have been depicted on Michigan maps from the time it was a territory to the present. In addition to maps, it includes photographs and unique short-lived route guides, showing how maps evolved in step with the road system and how advances such as named roads which were in time replaced with numbered state and federal routes. Maps from publishers Rand McNally and Gousha, who supplied oil companies with their freely distributed roadmaps, will also be showcased. Certain portions of the exhibit are also available to view at <http://maps.lib.msu.edu/miroadmaps>.

“**Engraved Powder Horns from the French and Indian War and the American Revolution**” will be on view at the Flynt Center of Early New England Life in Deerfield, Massachusetts, through **December 2007**. The exhibit features seventy-five authentic powder horns created between 1747–1781 for American colonists and soldiers; many are engraved with maps of forts and geographical



John Mitchell, *Map of the British and French Dominions...* (1755). Newberry Library Ayer \*133 M66 1775. One of the maps to be featured in the Newberry's “Mapping Manifest Destiny” exhibition (see page 6).

features. The collection is a gift of William H. Guthman and his wife, Elizabeth Stillinger, to the Flynt Center. For details, see [www.historic-deerfield.org/AmericanPowderHorns.shtml](http://www.historic-deerfield.org/AmericanPowderHorns.shtml)

**“Jamestown, Québec, Santa Fe: Three North American Beginnings,”** will show at the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond, Virginia, through **3 September 2007**. The exhibition utilizes rare surviving Native and European artifacts, maps, documents, and ceremonial objects from museums and royal collections on both sides of the Atlantic. Please visit [www.vahistorical.org](http://www.vahistorical.org) for further information. After showing at the Virginia Historical Society, the exhibition will travel to the Missouri Historical Society in St. Louis (**28 October 2007–16 March 2008**), the Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau, Québec (**9 May–7 September 2008**), the Albuquerque Museum, New Mexico (**25 October 2008–29 March 2009**), and the International Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. (**18 May–31 October 2009**).

**“Mapping the Past: A Selection of Antique Cartography from the Newton Collection,”** will show indefinitely at the Newton Center for British-American Studies at the Savannah College of Art and Design. Maps depicting North America, Great Britain, Georgia, and the world are on view in the Newton Center’s three map galleries. Highlights include 1597 maps from the earliest atlas of the Americas, 1776 military maps, and other eighteenth- and nineteenth-century maps, many of them hand colored, in addition to the works of cartographers such as Wytfliet, Hondius, Monath, Lotter, d’Anville, Faden, Lodge, Cary, and Wyld. Further information is available online at [www.scad.edu/museum/maps/maps.html](http://www.scad.edu/museum/maps/maps.html).

### Call for Papers

The American Museum in Britain at Bath and the Rothermere American Institute at the University of Oxford welcome proposals for papers for a symposium, **“New World Cartographies: Mapping America, 1500–1776,”** to be held at Claverton Manor, Bath, 2–3 November 2007. This symposium, which will be held in conjunction with an exhibition of maps of early America at the Museum, will focus on cartographic representations (and misrepresentations) of America before the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Issues to be considered may include: the significance of imaginative projections of America; the uses of science to map the new continent; interrelations between various conceptions of territory, colony, nation and continent in the New World; Native American representations of space and place; the iconographic idea of America; changing ideas about America between the Renaissance and the Enlightenment eras; associations between maps and politics. Please send titles of proposed papers, with a brief (250-word) description and a short CV to [academic.programme@rai.ox.ac.uk](mailto:academic.programme@rai.ox.ac.uk) by **15 May 2007**.

### Fellowships & Awards

The Trustees of the **J. B. Harley Research Fellowships** Trust Fund are pleased to announce the fourteenth series of awards. The fellowships are designed to assist research in the London map collections. The awardees for 2007 are: Dr. Marco Iuliano (University of Naples), “The City in Wood: Giovanni Andrea Vavassore and the map of Constantinople circa 1520” (four weeks); Ms. Carla Lois (University of Buenos Aires), “Mapping the Mare Occidentale: from Mare Tenebrorum to Atlantic Ocean (1490-1600)” (two weeks); Mr. Andreas Steinsieck (University of Braunschweig, Germany), “Public War Maps, 1899-1902: Towards a Cultural History of War Maps” with special reference to South Africa (four weeks); and Professor Richard Talbert (University of North Carolina), “Peutingers Map of the Roman World Reconsidered” (two weeks). For details of past awards, numbers of applicants, extracts from previous Fellows’ reports, and information about applying for a Fellowship, see [www.maphistory.info/harflws.html](http://www.maphistory.info/harflws.html).

### Web Notes

A companion website for *Lewis and Clark and the Indian Country*, an exhibition presented at the Newberry Library from September 2005 to January 2006, is now available online at [www.newberry.org/lewisandclark](http://www.newberry.org/lewisandclark). Developed in conjunction with the exhibition’s curators and staff from the Newberry Library, the website is organized into the same four sections as the exhibition: “The Indian Country, 1800: ‘A Brilliant Plan for Living’”; “Crossing the Indian Country”; “A New Nation Comes to the Indian Country”; and “The Indian Country Today.” They include images of all but a few of the items that were on display at the Library. Visitors will also find the complete text of interviews with American Indians that were originally presented on interactive media kiosks in the Newberry’s exhibit hall. The Web site also includes an extensive list of secondary sources and online resources related to the project in addition to transcripts of important government documents and reports.

The Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography at the Newberry Library was founded in 1972 to promote the study of the history of cartography through public programs, research projects, fellowships, courses of instruction, and publications.

*Mapline* (ISSN 0196-1881) is the Center’s newsletter. The cost of an annual subscription (three issues), inclusive of postage, is \$10 for delivery in North America, \$15 for all other subscribers. Back issues (as available) can be purchased for \$3.50 each. An index of past issues and text of selected articles are available on our Web site. Submissions of news items, lead articles, or review copies of recent books is encouraged, and should be sent to the attention of *Mapline* Editor at the address listed below.



The Hermon Dunlap Smith Center  
The Newberry Library  
60 West Walton St  
Chicago IL 60610 USA  
[smithctr@newberry.org](mailto:smithctr@newberry.org)  
[www.newberry.org/smith/smithhome.html](http://www.newberry.org/smith/smithhome.html)

